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THE DIXIE RANGER



The Cover

Virgin timber on the Gennett tract of
13,055 acres in Graham County, North
Carolina, recently approved for purchase
for the Cherokee National Forest.

THE DIXIE RANGER

Vcl. 1

October 1, 1935

No. 11

U.S. FOREST SERVICE, SOUTHERN REGION, ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

THE CCC FOLLOWS THE HURRICANE

By William L. Phillips
Project Superintendent

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A gripping account of heroism and public service by the enrollees of Company 1421, SP 2, Camp Reynolds, Florida.

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On Monday night, Sept. 2, the center of a West Indian hurricane passed over the Florida Keys about midway between Key West and the mainland. This storm, culminating in a wave of water fifteen or more feet high, high enough to overtop the railroad embankment, completely devastated thirty or forty miles of the low islands, killed an undetermined number of persons -- certainly not less than five hundred-- and injured other hundreds more or less seriously. The loss of life was particularly heavy at three Veterans' Camps which had been established on the Matacumbe Keys. All shelter and means of subsistence for the survivors were destroyed, and communication with the devastated area was cut off by the destruction of the railroad and highway bridges at Snake Creek, below Tavernier on Plantation Key, just within the upper edge of the zone of havoc.

The extent and character of the disaster did not become known

til late the following day, September 3. Wednesday morning at 3:00 a.m. a request was received at Camp Reynolds from the District Director, W.P.A. for 30 men to assist in relief work on the Keys; and at 4:00 a.m. an appeal from the Red Cross for 100 men. Ensign Cain, at the moment the ranking officer on duty at the Camp, started immediately to assemble a detail in compliance with the first request. From then on, through three days, Camp Reynolds served only as a base for operations on the Keys, 80 miles south, operations in which the entire camp strength was soon participating.

A bare chronicle, can give little idea of the nature of the service performed by this company of youth and handful of men. Consider first that they were, all of them first or last, engaged in recovering and evacuating the bodies of the dead, a task which must always be supremely repugnant to every instinct, revolting to every sense in a normal

man. Consider that rapid decomposition in a tropical climate quickly added to the horror of already mangled and disfigured corpses; that the living had to work, sleep and eat in an overpowering special stench, or with the tenaciously lingering recollection of it. The whole action takes place in a sordid-dreary setting of insensate destruction and mass death; there are the discomforts both of rain and of days of sultry tropical heat; the terrain is miry, filthy, encumbered and wearisome to travel; there is confusion, no head to anything, but only minor authorities who seem to block one's efforts or operate at cross purposes. Yet no one refused or failed to stand to the task even though a madness of horror momentarily gripped some of the participants.

The world, curiously, seldom thinks of applauding those who go in to clean up the messes left by natural convulsions or human conflict. The badge of courage is traditionally reserved for so-called gallant deeds carried out at grave personal risk. Here, little or no danger remained. There was only a job, but it was a job that called for stamina and resolution unsustained by any mood of exaltation or thought of glory to be won or instant succor to be given, a job wherein what reserves of fortitude a man possessed had to be drawn on hour by hour until they were exhausted or until some protective apathy mercifully dulled his normal emotions. Call them courageous or what you will, surely these men merit our deep respect.

Granted that they were not alone in the field, that others did work as hard and distasteful as they did, that those who remained to carry on had

conditions possibly even worse to face. Still, considering the average age of the enrollees, considering that they went on this business simply in the line of duty and stood to it without shirking, it seems that they deserve special praise and commendation.

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EXPERIMENT WITH ROAD MATERIALS

Regional Engineer Pidgeon spent a week on the Chimney Mountain Road, Cherokee National Forest, where an experiment was conducted in soil stabilization prepared by Messrs. Howard Jones and M. B. Arthur of the Washington Office, Chester Hogentogler, Jr., Research Associate of George Washington University, acting in the capacity of Collaborator of the Forest Service, John H. Elleman of the Technical Service Department of the Solvay Process Company (manufacturers of calcium chloride) analyzing roadbed material and discussing various methods of treatment.

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FIRE ORGANIZATION IMPROVES

Fire organization on the Long Cane Unit of the Sumter has advanced so well that crews get under way within from ten to fifteen minutes after a fire is reported. Another commendable undertaking on this unit is the classes in current events and practical road building which are conducted one evening each week.

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PISGAH PALEOLOGY

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Talk by E.H. Frothingham at a dinner on September 9 for
S. R. Broadbent and J. H. Stone.

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Paleorhoadesic Era

Lower Vernian (1912-1917),
characterized by eruptive
Rhoadesian forces of organization
and uplift. A sulphurous period of
fire and brimstone. Infancy of the
Forest Service flivver. Dirt
highways. Travel mostly foot and
horse. L. L. Bishop walked from
Marion to Asheville, July 1916,
bringing first news of a lost dele-
gation of primitive forestry
medicine men (Graves, Chapman,
Toumey, and others) marooned at
Marion (all wires down) while
enroute from the organization of
the Southern Forestry Congress.
W.J. Damtoft traveled from
Brevard to Johns Rock by mule and
pack animals. Pisgah headquarters
in the Candy Kitchen, on Haywood
Street.

Upper Vernian (1918-1925).
The age of mammoths - Spurgeon
Edmondson, Monroe Coffee, Perry
Davis, et al. A new type of
pestiferous cephalopod makes its
appearance, the "bug hunter" in
the parlance of the natives,
otherwise the forest investigator.
Disappearance of long logging
railroads, notably the Perley and
Crockett stem-winder up Mt. Mitchell,
with its populous observation car.
Pisgah headquarters moved to the
Drhumor Building, corner Patton
Avenue and Church Street, which was
also the first home of the
experiment station. The Pisgah
acquired another flivver.

Mesozoic Era

Mattoonocene period (1926-1933).
Marked by base-leveling and
solidification, in which process the
Pisgah headquarters shifted first
to the City Hall and then to the
Federal Building. The Pisgah lost
altitude in two ways, first by the
shrinkage of Mt. Mitchell from
6711 to 6684 feet, and second, by
the wafting away of Chick Mattoon.
What it lost in altitude it gained
in breadth in the Broadbentian
period. But this did not happen
until after the close of the

Kramerian period (1934),
a brief but hectic transition
marked by premonitory rumblings and
ending in a catclysm that disrupted
the universe into two parts. In
this prodigious split the Pisgah
adhered to the southern and more
enlightened of the two resulting
systems. The Kramerian period was
followed by the emergence of the

Psychopathic Era

This was ushered in by the

Broadbentian period (1934-1935),
marked by vast intellectual eruptions
and financial inundations. Stupen-
dous social currents and eddies re-
sorted old deposits in strange
alphabetical formations - NIRA, PWA,
CCC, AAA, EDW, TVA, and many others.
Strong disruptive forces brought
about the termination of this period
which brings us to the end of our

paleologic time table. But, so far as the Pisgah is concerned, all direct and circumstantial evidence points definitely to an impending period which may be termed the

Lithogenic or Herbaceous period,
or Stone Age.

The omens indicate that the symbol of this period will be the Medulla oblongata and its motto "A rolling Stone gathers no chiggers." The period will be one of beauty, joy and peace, - beauty expressed by a new Forest Service trousseau, joy and peace by the effort to find new jobs for the CCC and to keep accurate books on emergency activities.

Concomitant, ancillary with and appertaining to the birth of this new era is the parthenogenetic dissociation of two elements of the Pisgah formation to other systems within this same southern universe. By centrifugal force the Broadbentian entity is hurled with terrific velocity into the influence of the Atlantean system where it will continue to circulate and glow with nebulous radiance ad infinitum. With equal certainty but to a lesser distance, the Bryanian personality will be cast forth to create a new era in the tall and oaken timbers of the Nantahala. Thus by unending change does Nature vindicate the utterance of the ancient sage, that not always does the right mustard plaster repose upon the wrong personage.

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The total weight of the water to be stored in the reservoir back of Boulder Dam is estimated at 41,500,000,000 tons.

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GEORGIA FORESTER
CELEBRATES DECADE OF
SERVICE

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B. M. Lufburrow will celebrate his tenth anniversary as State Forester for Georgia on October 15. His appointment to this office laid the foundation of the present Georgia Forest Service. The progress which has marked his decade of work has far exceeded the hopes of the most optimistic pioneers in the movement.

In anticipation of this important anniversary, Regional Forester Kircher recently wrote Mr. Lufburrow: "I feel that we are on the threshold of a period of even greater progress in making our forest lands contribute their full measure to our economic and social wellbeing. The Georgia Forest Service is facing tremendous responsibilities and opportunities. I congratulate you on this tenth anniversary and pledge the cooperation of the United States Forest Service in working for the greater accomplishments that lie in the future."

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MR. KRAMER GOES TO
PUERTO RICO

Assistant Regional Forester Kramer, supervisor of the Luquillo National Forest (now the Caribbean) for eleven years, has gone to Puerto Rico for a stay of several weeks to assist Supervisor Hadley with plans for the administration and future expansion of the forest.

Mr. Kramer spent several days in Washington on his way to New York where he sailed for Puerto Rico on September 28.



A Hazard seeder in use. Seeders of this type have been utilized to plant about 70,000,000 seeds in Southern National Forest nurseries. The machine was invented by J. O. Hazard, State Forester for Tennessee.



Visitors from Illinois clearing away a camp breakfast at Van Hook Glade, a new recreational area on the Nantahala National Forest. They came in on July 4 and were still in residence on September 15.



Recreation lodge built
by CCC enrollees on
the Pickett State
Forest, Jamestown,
Tennessee

Payday on the Caribbean
National Forest in
Puerto Rico. This
forest was recently
transferred to Region 8
from Region 7 and the
name changed from
Luquillo to Caribbean



Condensed from an article by
Senior Forester Donald R. Brewster,
In the Southern Lumberman, September 1.

Nearly two-thirds of the area of the Southern States has been classified as permanent forest land, capable of producing commercial timber products. The original virgin timber has been partially or entirely cut from nearly all of this vast area, leaving cut-over pine and hardwood forests estimated to total more than 175,000,000 acres.

These forest lands are favorably situated to produce enormous quantities of lumber and timber products and naval stores to meet the needs of domestic consumption and foreign trade. As a potential source of wealth and employment, they are second only to agriculture and must be counted among the South's greatest assets. If protected and developed, they are capable of providing directly or indirectly, for the support of millions of our population in whole or in part. The great stream of outside money which can be made to flow into the Southern States in payment for the products of these forests is vitally needed for the prosperity of the South and the entire country.

Unfortunately, neither timberland owners nor public agencies have fully realized the importance of maintaining these forest lands in a productive condition. In the cutting of both the virgin timber, as well as the second growth that has come in since, the average owner has had little or no concern for the future. As a rule, all trees have been cut that were large enough to produce anything of merchantable value. Timber was treated as a mine, to be exploited and forgotten, rather than as a renewable resource to be protected and managed for future production.

Cost Surprisingly Small

Compared with the values at stake, the cost of maintaining these forest lands in a productive condition will be found to be surprisingly small in most cases. Just two simple things are necessary -- fire protection and the leaving of the smaller trees for further growth and for re-seeding.

Leaving the smaller trees involves little or no reduction in the net returns from timber cutting, in most instances, because such trees seldom show a profit on the cutting operation and often show a net loss. Under a state co-operative system, now operative in every Southern State, with the cost shared by the state and federal governments, fire protection costs the private owner only a few cents per acre per year and cannot be considered as a serious obstacle to the profitable growing of tree crops on the commercial forest lands of the South.

Possible Annual Income of \$700,000,000

If labor values are added, including railroad revenues for transportation, it is estimated that Southern forest lands are capable of producing an average annual capital and labor income of at least \$4 per acre. While some of the poorest lands could hardly be expected to do this well, a large proportion of the Southern forest lands are capable of producing considerably more than \$4 per acre under protection and forest management. It is believed, therefore, that this figure represents a conservative estimate of the general average. Based on this estimate, the gross annual labor and capital income on the total cutover area of 175,000,000 acres would be at least \$700,000,000.

Cost of fire protection varies widely with local conditions and seasons but it is estimated in the Copeland Report that the forest lands of the South in state, private, or other ownership aside from federal can be protected from fire at an average cost of 5.43 cents per acre per year. Estimates based upon National Forest experience in the South indicate that this figure may be somewhat low and that really adequate protection may require an expenditure of as much as 8 or 10 cents per acre each year, including the cost of improvements and overhead. Even at the higher figure, however, the total cost of complete blanket fire protection for practically the entire area of Southern commercial forests would be only from 2.0 to 2.5 per cent of the annual capital and labor income that could be expected from these lands after they have been protected and developed for a sufficient number of years to stock the lands with growing trees with a normal percentage of commercial sizes.

During the earlier years of this development, with possibly less than 50 per cent of the lands containing a good stocking of merchantable trees, the annual income might not be more than one-fourth of the potential total of \$700,000,000. Even at its lowest point, however, it seems safe to assume that this income would be many times the cost of fire protection and that it would show a steady increase with each additional year that protection is furnished.

Greater Taxable Wealth

The states and federal government have a substantial interest in these potential forest revenues as an additional tax resource, both direct and indirect. Counting both property and income taxes, as well as internal revenue collections, public taxing agencies might expect to collect in taxes possibly as much as 5 per cent or more of the gross capital and labor income. On this basis, the additional tax income to public agencies through fire protection would be at least twice as much as the cost of furnishing that protection. If the taxpayers could eventually expect to receive two dollars back in added tax revenue for every dollar invested in protection, this would appear to be a wise use of public funds, even though only a minor proportion of the cost of protection could be obtained through voluntary contributions of private timberland owners.

No Profit in Small Trees

Present profits are sacrificed when trees are cut which do not pay the direct cost of converting them into a usable product. The smaller the tree, the higher is the cost of production per unit of volume and the lower is the quality and value of the product. These relationships establish, for each type of timber and for each kind of product, a minimum size of tree which will produce a profit on the cutting operation. Trees below this size will show an actual out-of-pocket loss. If cut, they will reduce the total profits of the operation by the amount of that loss.

Future profits are sacrificed when trees are cut which show little or no profit at present but which would increase rapidly in value if left to grow for an additional limited period of five, or ten, or possibly twenty years. Timber owners have generally failed to appreciate the comparative rapidity with which trees increase in merchantable volume and value after they have once reached a minimum usable size. For instance, it was found in one study that loblolly pine trees showed a minus value for diameters from 7 to 13 inches b.h. At 14 inches a net value of \$0.19 per tree was shown. This increased to \$0.60 for 15"; \$1.11 for 16"; \$1.72 for 17"; \$2.44 for 18"; \$3.27 for 19"; \$4.22 for 20"; \$5.50 for 21"; and \$6.51 for 22", with a further increase to \$16.32 for a 29" tree.

A 3400 Per Cent Investment

Loblolly pine trees left after logging selectively might be expected to show an average increase in diameter b.h. of about 2 inches every five years, under conditions found on many areas. Assuming this rate of growth, a 14" tree would grow to 16" in five years and increase in value from \$0.19 to \$1.11 or nearly 600 per cent. If left to grow to 18" in 10 years, it would be worth \$2.44, or more than 1200 per cent of its 14" value. In 20 years it would reach 22 inches and have a value of \$6.51, --a 3400 per cent increase.

It is evident in this case that an investment in leaving 14" or even 16" trees for an additional period of from 10 to 20 years would pay the owner handsome profits through the rapid increase in the volume and quantity of such trees if left for a few years of added growth. This will be found to be true of the marginal and somewhat larger than marginal sizes on most saw-timber operations. Such profits will vary directly with the number of the smaller trees that are left per acre and this will vary in turn with the number that are available for leaving.

Profits from Selective Cutting

The profits from leaving small trees vary, of course, with the circumstances. Each case must be worked out on its own merits. They are greatest for the owner who expects to manage his lands for permanent production, with periodic selective cuttings every 10 to 20 years. They are least, perhaps, for the owner who expects to "cut out and get out" and dispose of

his lands before another cutting will be possible. Even in the latter case, however, it will be found that there is a marginal size of tree below which it does not pay to go in cutting, and that many trees large enough to produce merchantable products should nevertheless be left, not only to increase the net returns from the present operation, but also to provide a growing stock which will make the lands more attractive and valuable if sold to a future owner.

PISGAH NEWS

The last link of the Busick-Big Ivy grounded telephone line is nearing completion. Roadside clean-up, bank fixation and betterment work are well under way with 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the Pisgah Motor Road, 13 miles of the Bent Creek Truck trail and 6 miles of the Yellow Gap Truck trail maintained this month. Betterment work on the Carolina Mountain Club continued throughout the month. Two main projects are Upper Paint Creek Truck trail No. 42 and Greene Mountain Truck trail No. 98, on which the work is coming along fine.

The new company located at Camp F-5 Tenn. is swinging into action in wonderful shape. They have completed around 1 mile on the betterment of Red Fork Road No. 30, and are getting a fine start on the Rock Creek Road No. 28 leading into Poplar, N.C. The Unaka Springs Road No. 107 and Scioto Road No. 4 are looking better every day under the good workmanship of the old Company 1455. The newly acquired tract of land on Flat Top Mountain in North Carolina will soon be history as far as T.S.I. work is concerned. It is believed this is some of the best T.S.I. work, taking the area as a whole, in this part of the forest.

Timber survey work was carried on by Junior Foresters Olson and Dietrich in the Watauga District until the last week in

August when both men were temporarily transferred to Lenoir, N. C. to assist Mr. B.O. Hughes of the Regional Office, who has been inspecting old cutover areas, planting and timber sales in the Mt. Mitchell District. A survey of 33 wood using industries in the Watauga District was completed during the last week of the month, showing an annual consumption of 70,800,000 board feet of lumber and logs, 47,500 cords chemical wood, 20,000 cords pulpwood, 1,000,000 ties, 52,000 cords of extract wood and 17,000,000 lbs. finished pulp.

Examination crews are continuing work in the Linville Extension area. Options on two large tracts have been secured and the prospects look good for more.

An estimated total of guests on the Backbone Rock Camp Ground on the Unaka amounted to 6,000. The Carolina Hemlock Camp Ground continues to draw campers. It is believed that more space will be needed for recreation seekers by next summer.

A workshop containing a complete set of machinery for wood working has been erected at Camp F-2 NC, and manual training for enrollees will be started.

Lake Eden Inn was the scene of gala "doings" Monday night, September 9, as the personnel of Pisgah-Unaka Forest gathered to bid farewell to Supervisor Sam R. Broadbent, transferred to the Regional Office, and to Assistant Supervisor Philip H. Bryan, promoted to be Supervisor of the Nantahala National Forest at Franklin, N.C; and to welcome in Mr. Broadbent's place, Supervisor J. Herbert Stone from the Nantahala. The event began with dinner at 7:30 o'clock. Among those who made speeches were Mr. Broadbent, Mr. Stone, District Attorney Marcus Erwin and E.H. Frothingham of the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station and other Forestry officials.

The Florida and Georgia boys at Camp F-22 NC consider it very dangerous to walk in the woods after dark. Two boys, after a walk to the top of Bald Mountain came back with a hair-raising tale of a narrow escape from a pack of wild cats. It seems both boys were sitting on the top of Bald Mountain watching the moon rise, when they heard several goats squealing. The sounds kept coming nearer until the boys decided to look around. When they got to their feet, they were surrounded by three wild cats. Luckily the wild cats between the boys and camp were quite nimble and managed to escape being trampled to death as the boys left for the camp at full speed. Wild cats may be fast, but they can't compete with the boys at CCC Camp F-22 when they are in a hurry.

A NEW CCC PAPER

Park and Forest News, the 8-page official newspaper of CCC Camps SP 10 and P 63, McRae, Georgia, is the latest addition to the exchange list of the DIXIE RANGER.

The excellence of CCC publications has attracted wide attention and the Library of Congress is attempting to make a complete collection of them. Mr. Boyer and Mr. Jarrard, park and forest editors, respectively, have made an excellent job of a full-fledged newspaper that includes an imposing amount of advertising. Contributions from an "infirmary editor" gives you an idea of the thoroughness with which the news is reported. We hope the Congressional Library doesn't miss this one!

Our favorite joke from the new sheet: They've discovered a new insect called the golf moth. It does 18 holes in a day.

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Geologists say the petroleum supply will be exhausted in eight years, but most of us will continue to worry about it only five gallons at a time. - Southern Lumberman.

* * *

Fires are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree. -
Idaho Forester.

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THE LOOK OUT

Regional Forester Kircher returned to the Regional Office September 30 from Washington. Previous to that trip, he had been to New Orleans, Montgomery, Asheville, and Columbia.

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Associate Regional Forester Stabler has returned from an official trip to the Nantahala headquarters at Franklin, N.C. He and Mrs. Stabler were guests at the farewell dinner to Superintendent Stone given by the Forest staff at Camp NC F-9.

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E. L. Demmon and V.L. Harper, Southern Forest Experiment Station, were recent visitors to the Regional Office.

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Regional Engineer Pidgeon has returned from an inspection trip to the Pisgah Division of the Pisgah Forest.

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Assistant Regional Forester Evans was in New Orleans on September 17 and 18 with Mr. Kircher. They attended the meeting of Gulf District State Foresters and various other Forest Service officials at which the acquisition of State Forests under the Fulmer Law was discussed. Mr. Evans returned to Atlanta on the 19th and left that evening with Mr. Kircher and W.I. Stevens for Columbia, S.C. to confer with J.S. Holmes, State Forester of North Carolina, and H.A. Smith, State Forester of South Carolina, on the same subject.

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Assistant Regional Forester Shaw is making an inspection trip to the Cherokee.

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Miss Beryl G. Gardner, assistant editor, Washington Office, spent the week of September 2 on the Nantahala and Cherokee National Forests gathering firsthand information about forest operation.

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S. R. Broadbent, Regional Office, addressed the Atlanta Rotary Club on September 30.

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The Ocala National Forest entertained the Junior and Senior Chambers of Commerce at the Sweetwater Camp on September 19. E.A. Schilling, Regional Office, and Supervisor Albert made short talks.

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Executive Assistant Brown of the Kisatchie has been transferred to the Caribbean in Puerto Rico. Executive Assistant Dillon of the Nantahala has taken his place at Alexandria.

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Senior Forester C.G. Smith has returned from a field trip in Georgia and South Carolina.

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H.E. Ochsner, Regional Office, was married on September 6 to Miss Ardis Carr of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

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J.R. Smith, Regional Office, is on a detail to the Kisatchie Forest.

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W. H. Fisher has been promoted to assistant supervisor of the Pisgah.

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J. L. Massett, Regional Office, is on a detail to the Pisgah Forest.

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H.W. Rainey left Atlanta September 17 for a road inspection trip, including the Alabama, Cherokee and Sumter Forests. He will return about October 20.

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Burton M. Graham left September 23 for Ft. Barrancas, Florida, where he is working in cooperation with the War Department on a road system in that vicinity.

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J.H. Stone recently completed an inspection of the State ECW camps in North Carolina. On September 30 he leaves for a two weeks' trip to South Carolina.

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Paul H. Gerrard, Regional Inspector, returned on September 27 from a two weeks' survey of forest fire cooperation work in Florida.

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W. R. Hine recently made an inspection trip through Southeastern Georgia, accompanied by H.M. Sebring, of the Georgia Forest Service, and visited a number of the State CCC camps.

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Mrs. Evelyn Fuller, of the Division of States Relations, returned September 30 after a week's vacation. Miss Jewell King of States Relations returned on September 18 from a ten-day visit in New Orleans and Baton Rouge.

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Miss Lillian Sims has joined the clerical staff of the Division of States Relations. She came to us from Washington on August 26.

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For the first time in four years Supervisor Sears, Sumter Forest, has had a vacation -- August 21 to September 9. He spent most of the time in Virginia and Pennsylvania.

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C. E. Beaumont, Regional Office, has taken the position of acquisition staff assistant on the Sumter left vacant by Milton B. Ricker, who was transferred to the Ouachita.

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H. B. Herms, Regional Office, spent several days at Sumter headquarters recently

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O. D. Cromer, and Miss Mildred Goldson were married on September 10.

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WANTED

A man calling himself Harry B. Lane and claiming to be an employe of the Forest Service has been passing bad checks in the vicinity of Tellico Plains, according to a report from Ranger Squires to Supervisor Clark. Merchants describe the man as follows: Height, 5' 9"; age, about 35; high forehead; light brown hair; weight, about 140. Said to be driving 1929 Chevrolet, Indiana license.

If any forest officers in Region 8 have information of such a person, it should be passed on to the Regional Law Officer. The latest information is that he and a companion, Frances Tate, are in custody in Cainesville, Georgia.